

Advisory Council on Aging and Disability Services

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Creating choices for elders and adults with disabilities in Seattle-King County

Advisory Council on Aging and Disability Services Monthly Meeting March 14, 2003

13th Floor Conference Room, Alaska Building
618 Second Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

ADVISORY COUNCIL

- Present:** Marc Avni, Cleo Corcoran, Larry Verhei, John Holecek, Martha Becker, John Kennedy, Joanne Brekke, Helen Spencer, Adam John, Lisa Yeager, Alexandra Tu, Larry Low, Will Parry, and Gabe Cohen
- Absent:** Mae Shields, Yolanda Sanchez-Lovato, Thelma Coney, Richard McIver, Steve Cowell, and Suzanne Wiley
- Guests:** Marie Walker, Stephen Eisenshank, and Kathy Hultsquist

ADS STAFF: Selina Chow, Rosemary Cunningham, Karen Winston, Linda Wells, Margaret Casey, and Ozell Bledsoe

King County Staff: Ken Schulman

United Way Staff: Linda Woodall

MINUTES

Cleo Corcoran, Chair, convened the Advisory Council meeting at 12:00 p.m., and asked everyone to introduce themselves.

Mental Health in King County: Looking toward the Future:

- **Amnon Shoenfeld, Acting Manager, King County Mental Health** reported on Mental Health Issues, Trends and Future Implications for elders living in King County. He reported that the most consistently under diagnosed mental illnesses were Alzheimer's Dementia and Depression. He also reported on the difficulties of Differential Diagnosis, and other mental health issues and concerns experienced by many older adults, for example: alcohol & substance abuse, prescription drug abuse and how they often lead to major problems including significant economic loss, hospitalization and higher suicide rates. Amnon also reported on services, resources and eligibility criteria for King County Mental Health, Chemical Abuse and Dependency Services Division.

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- **Betsy Kruse, Director, Mental Health Services, Evergreen Healthcare** reported on the impact of Depression, Dementia and Co-Occurring Themes in Mental Health which most affect older adults. She reported that Dementias, Depression and Psychosis are significant in older adults and that 20% of individuals 55 years of age and older experience mental disorder during their lifetime, of which, the most common are Anxiety Disorders, Alzheimer's Dementia, Other Dementias and Mood Disorders. Betsy also updated Advisory Council on the services and eligibility criteria of programs for older adults provided by Evergreen Healthcare, including the: In-Home Mental Health Program (IHMH) and Geriatric Crisis Services (Geriatric Regional Assessment Team or GRAT).

BUSINESS MEETING

The February 14, 2003 minutes were reviewed and adopted.

Committee and Task Force Reports:

- **Executive Committee:** **Cleo Corcoran**
 - Reported on criteria for membership on the Executive Committee and their responsibilities. The next Executive Committee meeting will be Friday, March 28, 2003.
- **Health Care Task Force** **Martha Becker**
 - Reported on the Health Care Task Force meeting featuring a video called Living Positive, by the National Center and Caucus on Black Aging, addressing the issue of HIV/AIDS and its increasing prominence among older adults in America.
- **Outreach and Advocacy Committee** **Gabe Cohen**
 - Reported on a last meeting approval recommending the Advisory Council Chair write a letter of support for HB1214 to legislators and the media.

Action: A motion was passed, that a letter in support of HB1214 will go out from the Advisory Council Chair to state legislators and local media.

- Reported on plans for Advisory Council members to take a trip to Olympia to visit legislators on Friday, April 4th, 2003.
- Reported on supporting the COPES and Medicaid Personal Care Programs and recommended the AC authorize writing an Op-Ed piece and providing a copy to reporter Marsha King.

Action: A motion was passed, that the Advisory Council approves writing an Op-Ed piece supporting the COPES and Medicaid Personal Care Programs.

- **Planning and Allocation**

John Kennedy

- Reported on 2003 Supplemental Discretionary Fund Allocation carry over funds due to conservative spending strategy adopted in 2002, factors considered in developing recommendations for allocating these funds, funding criteria and funding requests.

Action: A motion was made, seconded and passed, that the 2003 Supplemental Allocation Budget recommendations be approved and submitted for public review.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:00 p.m.

Next Meeting:

Day/date: **Friday, April 11, 2003**

Time: **11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.**

Place: **Senior Services (Lillian Rice Center)
2208 Second Avenue
Seattle, WA 98121**

John Kennedy, Secretary-Treasurer _____